

Claim 3: line 1, delete "or 2"

Claim 4: line 1, change "any of claims 1-3" to --claim 1--

Claim 5: line 1, change "any of claims 1-4" to --claim 1--

Claim 6: line 1, change "any of claims 1-5" to --claim 1--

Please add the new following claims:

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--9. An apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that said load support members (31) and said mating members (53, 54) are provided with interlockingly mating shapes.

10. An apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that said support member (31) is provided with a protruding part (32) forming an angle with the horizontal plane during the lifting operation.

11. An apparatus according to claim 3, characterized in that said support member (31) is provided with a protruding part (32) forming an angle with the horizontal plane during the lifting operation.

12. An apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that each of said lift units (23,24) is actuated by two drive shafts driving lift means (25,26), such as lift chains, and that said drive shafts are arranged to be driven by a drive unit (27) equipped with a variable-frequency inverter and an angular pulse encoder or a similar position transducer.

13. An apparatus according to claim 3, characterized in that each of said lift units (23,24) is actuated by two drive shafts driving lift means (25,26), such as lift chains, and that said drive shafts are arranged to be driven by a drive unit (27)

equipped with a variable-frequency inverter and an angular pulse encoder or a similar position transducer.

14. An apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that each of said lift units (23,24) is actuated by two drive shafts driving lift means (25,26), such as lift chains, and that said drive shafts are arranged to be driven by a drive unit (27) equipped with a variable-frequency inverter and an angular pulse encoder or a similar position transducer.

15. An apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that when the number of said actuator means (27) is larger than one, the first one of said actuator means is a so-called master actuator and the others are so-called slave actuators.

16. An apparatus according to claim 3, characterized in that when the number of said actuator means (27) is larger than one, the first one of said actuator means is a so-called master actuator and the others are so-called slave actuators.

17. An apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that when the number of said actuator means (27) is larger than one, the first one of said actuator means is a so-called master actuator and the others are so-called slave actuators.

18. An apparatus according to claim 5, characterized in that when the number of said actuator means (27) is larger than one, the first one of said actuator means is a so-called master actuator and the others are so-called slave actuators.